

Environmental Education



Correlation of
Wisconsin's Model Academic Standards to
Project Learning Tree's PreK - 8
Environmental Education Activity Guide

Wisconsin's Model Academic Standards

Our state has established rigorous goals for teaching and learning in 18 subject areas. As defined in the introduction to each document:

Academic standards specify what students should know and be able to do, what they might be asked to do to give evidence of standards, and how well they must perform. They include content, performance, and proficiency standards.

- *Content standards refer to what students should know and be able to do.*
- *Performance standards tell how students will show that they are meeting a standard.*
- *Proficiency standards indicate how well students must perform.*

Paraphrased Standards

In this document, you will find that the performance standards have been reworded to fit the tables. We hope these shortened statements will give some meaning to the numbers and letters of the standards as you refer to the tables. While every attempt has been made to preserve the intent of the standards, you should always consult the original wording for clarification, reference, and further correlations.

About These Correlations!

Project Learning Tree (PLT) is a set of environmental education activities that focuses on forestry education. The hands-on interdisciplinary nature of the activities makes them ideal for meeting the needs of educators and students. We hope these correlations help to facilitate the infusion of PLT activities into Wisconsin's classrooms and other educational settings.

Disclaimer ☺

Correlating written activities with the standards is challenging and subjective. Since you may have a different perspective on the standards and the activities, consider these charts as starting points for selecting and using PLT activities.

Direct Relationship

Only direct relationships have been identified. For example, if the use of mathematics is a primary focus of the activity and a performance standard is directly addressed, the standard is marked with a "✱". If the use of mathematics is secondary or the performance standard is simply

reinforced, the standard is marked with a "•". Incidental references to standards have not been correlated. For example, every PLT activity containing references to numbers could be correlated to the A.4 or A. 8 content standards in Mathematics.

Main Activity Only

To limit the scope of this project, correlations have **not** been made to variations, extensions, enrichments, or assessments. In some activities, these enhancements more completely address some of the academic standards.

Correlations Make No Assumptions

These correlations are based on the way the activity is written. They do not take into account the myriad of ways the activity could be modified to address a standard more directly or completely. In addition, if the content of the standard is referred to in the activity's background, but the students do not act on the information in the written activity, it is not included in the correlations.

Links to PLT Activity Descriptions

In the electronic version of this document, click on the name of the PLT activity to jump to a description of the activity. Each description includes the following: objectives, grade levels, subjects, and a complete listing of correlations to English Language Arts, Environmental Education, Math, Science, and Social Studies. *Note:* PLT's listing of subjects is not based on Wisconsin's Model Academic Standards. Therefore, a subject might be listed by PLT and not address any standards. In addition, standards might be addressed in an activity without the subject being listed by PLT.

Project Sponsors

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Environmental Education

A. Questioning and Analysis

Content Standard

Students in Wisconsin will use credible research methods to investigate environmental questions, revise their personal understanding to accommodate new knowledge and perspectives, and be able to communicate this understanding to others.

- * Activity directly addresses the achievement of the standard.
- Activity reinforces or supports the achievement of the standard.

Performance Standards

		Grade 4				Grade 8								
		A.4.1 Make observations, ask questions & plan investigations	A.4.2 Collect information, make predictions, & offer explanations	A.4.3 Develop answers, draw conclusions, & revise understanding	A.4.4 Communicate their understanding to others				A.8.1 Identify environmental issue questions	A.8.2 Collect information & conduct experiments	A.8.3 Use techniques such as modeling & simulating	A.8.4 Use critical-thinking strategies to interpret & analyze	A.8.5 Use the results of their investigations	A.8.6 Communicate the results of investigations
Project Learning Tree Activities	Grade													
Air We Breathe	6 – 8								•				•	
Are Vacant Lots Vacant?	4 – 8	*	*	*	*									
Every Drop Counts	4 – 8		*	*	*									
The Fallen Log	4 – 8	*	*	*										
Field, Forest and Stream	4 – 8	*	*	*	*									
Nature's Recyclers	1 – 6	*	*	*	*									
Planet of Plenty	4 – 6		*	*	•									
Power of Print	6 – 8							*	*					
Sounds Around – Part B	6 – 8							•	*		•	•		
Trees As Habitats	3 – 8	*	*	*	*									
Trees in Trouble	1 – 8		•											
Watch on Wetlands	7 – 8							*	*		*			

Environmental Education

B. Knowledge of Environmental Processes and Systems

Content Standard

Students in Wisconsin will demonstrate an understanding of the natural environment and the interrelationships among natural systems.

- * Activity directly addresses the achievement of the standard.
- Activity reinforces or supports the achievement of the standard.

Performance Standards

Grade 4												
	B.4.1 Describe the flow of energy in natural systems	B.4.2 Illustrate how they use energy in their daily lives	B.4.3 List renewable and nonrenewable sources of energy	B.4.4 List the components of an ecosystem	B.4.5 Describe Wisconsin's natural & human-built ecosystems	B.4.6 Cite examples of how organisms adapt to their habitats	B.4.7 Draw a simple hydrologic cycle	B.4.8 Describe and give examples of natural resources	B.4.9 Distinguish between renewable & nonrenewable resources	B.4.10 Describe how they use natural resources in their daily lives	B.4.11 List jobs in the community dependent on natural resources	B.4.12 Determine the cause of different types of pollution
Air Plants	*											
Are Vacant Lots Vacant?				*								
Birds and Worms						*						
Can It Be Real?						*						
Charting Diversity						•						
Every Drop Counts										*		
The Fallen Log	*					*						
A Few of My Favorite Things		*	•					*	*	*		
Field, Forest and Stream				*								
Forest for the Trees									•	•		
The Forest of S. T. Shrew						*						
Germinating Giants						*						

Project Learning Tree Activities

Grade

Air Plants

3 - 6

Are Vacant Lots Vacant?

4 - 8

Birds and Worms

K - 6

Can It Be Real?

4 - 8

Charting Diversity

4 - 8

Every Drop Counts

4 - 8

The Fallen Log

4 - 8

A Few of My Favorite Things

4 - 8

Field, Forest and Stream

4 - 8

Forest for the Trees

4 - 8

The Forest of S. T. Shrew

1 - 6

Germinating Giants

4 - 6

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Performance Standards

Grade 4											
B.4.1	B.4.2	B.4.3	B.4.4	B.4.5	B.4.6	B.4.7	B.4.8	B.4.9	B.4.10	B.4.11	B.4.12
Describe the flow of energy in natural systems	Illustrate how they use energy in their daily lives	List renewable and nonrenewable sources of energy	List the components of an ecosystem	Describe Wisconsin's natural & human-built ecosystems	Cite examples of how organisms adapt to their habitats	Draw a simple hydrologic cycle	Describe and give examples of natural resources	Distinguish between renewable & nonrenewable resources	Describe how they use natural resources in their daily lives	List jobs in the community dependent on natural resources	Determine the cause of different types of pollution
	*						*		*		
			*								
									*		
				•							
					*				*		
			•								
			*	*							
						*					
			*						*		
										*	

Project Learning Tree Activities

	Grade
Resource-Go-Round	4 – 8
School Yard Safari	PreK – 5
Talking Trash, Not!	1 – 6
Three Cheers for Trees	1 – 6
Tree Treasures	2 – 6
Trees as Habitats	3 – 8
Trees in Trouble	1 – 8
Tropical Treehouse – Part A	3 – 6
Water Wonders	4 – 8
We All Need Trees	4 – 6
Web of Life	4 – 8
Who Works in this Forest?	3 – 6

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Performance Standards

Grade 8

Project Learning Tree Activities	Grade	B.8.1 Describe the flow of energy in ecosystems	B.8.2 Explain how change is a natural process	B.8.3 Explain the importance of biodiversity	B.8.4 Map the levels of organization of matter	B.8.5 Give examples of human impact on various ecosystems	B.8.6 Describe major ecosystems of Wisconsin	B.8.7 Illustrate the conservation of matter	B.8.8 Explain interactions among organisms	B.8.9 Explain how the environment is perceived by various cultures	B.8.10 Explain & cite examples of how humans shape the environment	B.8.11 Describe our society as an ecosystem	B.8.12 Provide examples of how cultures use natural resources	B.8.13 Diagram how resources are distributed around the world	B.8.14 Identify the natural resources found in Wisconsin	B.8.15 Analyze how people impact their environment	B.8.16 Recognize the factors that impact resource availability	B.8.17 Explain how human resource use can impact the environment	B.8.18 Identify major air, water, or land pollutants and their sources	B.8.19 Distinguish between point and nonpoint source pollution	B.8.20 Identify types of waste and methods for waste reduction	B.8.21 Identify and analyze effects of pollution on health	B.8.22 Identify careers related to natural resources	B.8.23 Identify resource-related governmental and private agencies	B.8.24 Create a timeline of Wisconsin history in resource management
Air Plants	3 - 6							•																	
Air to Drive	5 - 8										*														
Air We Breathe	6 - 8																		*			•			
Are Vacant Lots Vacant?	4 - 8					•			*		•														
Birds and Worms	K - 6								•																
Did You Notice? - Part B	3 - 8																							*	
Dynamic Duos	5 - 8								*																
Energy Sleuths	6 - 8															•	*	*							
Environmental Exchange Box	K - 8					•								•											
Every Tree For Itself	K - 8								*																
The Fallen Log	4 - 8		*						*																
A Few of My Favorite Things	4 - 8																	•							

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Grade 8

Project Learning Tree Activities	Grade	B.8.1	B.8.2	B.8.3	B.8.4	B.8.5	B.8.6	B.8.7	B.8.8	B.8.9	B.8.10	B.8.11	B.8.12	B.8.13	B.8.14	B.8.15	B.8.16	B.8.17	B.8.18	B.8.19	B.8.20	B.8.21	B.8.22	B.8.23	B.8.24
Field, Forest and Stream	4 – 8								*																
Forest for the Trees	4 – 8		•			•			•		•														
A Forest of Many Uses	5 – 8										*					*									
The Forest of S. T. Shrew	1 – 6								*																
400-Acre Wood	7 – 8					•			•		•					*									
Germinating Giants	4 – 6								•																
Habitat Pen Pals	3 – 6								•																
Life on the Edge	4 – 8		*			*			*																
Living with Fire	4 – 8					*																		•	
A Look at Aluminum – Part A	5 – 8																	*			•				
A Look at Lifestyles	5 – 8												*			*		*							
Loving It Too Much	6 – 8					*					*														

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Grade 8

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Make Your Own Paper	1 – 8																	•			•				
The Native Way	4 – 8								*				*												
Nature's Recyclers	1 – 6		*																						
Nothing Succeeds Like Succession	3 – 8		*			•			*		•														
Our Changing World	5 – 8										*							*							
A Peek at Packaging	5 – 8															•									
People of the Forest	5 – 8					•			*				•												
Planet of Plenty	4 – 6			*		•																			
Planning the Ideal Community	6 – 8										*	*													
Plant a Tree	1 – 8										*														
Pollution Search	2 – 6																	*				•			
Reduce, Reuse, Recycle	4 – 8																			*					

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Renewable Or Not	4 – 8												*			•									
Resource-Go-Round	4 – 8												*	*		•	*	•							
School Yard Safari	PreK – 5							*																	
Soil Stories	5 – 8																•								
Sounds Around – Part B	6 – 8																		•			*		•	
Tale of the Sun	K – 6								*			*													
Talking Trash, Not!	1 – 6												*							*					
Tepee Talk	4 – 8											*				•					*				
Then And Now	5 – 8					*					*				*										*
Three Cheers for Trees	1 – 6									*															
Trees as Habitats	3 – 8							*			*														
Trees for Many Reasons	2 – 8					*		•		*															

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Grade 8

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Trees in Trouble	1 – 8					*																	*	*	
Tropical Treehouse	3 – 8					*			*	*	•		*			•		•							
Waste Watchers	5 – 8																*	•				*			
Watch on Wetlands	7 – 8					•	*																*		
Water Wonders	4 – 8																	•							
Web of Life	4 – 8								*																
Where Are the Cedars of Lebanon?	6 – 8									*	*		*					*							
Who Works in this Forest?	3 – 6																						*		

Environmental Education

C. Environmental Issue Investigation Skills

Content Standard

Students in Wisconsin will be able to identify, investigate, and evaluate environmental problems and issues.

- * Activity directly addresses the achievement of the standard.
- Activity reinforces or supports the achievement of the standard.

Performance Standards

		Grade 4					Grade 8							
		C.4.1	C.4.2	C.4.3	C.4.4	C.4.5	C.8.1	C.8.2	C.8.3	C.8.4				
		Identify environmental problems and issues	Apply ideas of past, present, and future to specific issues	Identify people and groups of people that are involved	Identify some of the decisions & actions related to the issue	Identify proposed solutions to the issue and discuss	Define and provide examples of environmental issues	Use environmental monitoring techniques to collect data	Use questioning & analysis to study the people involved	Evaluate the credibility of information				
Power of Print	6 – 8						•	*	*					
Soil Stories	5 – 8							•						
Sounds Around – Part B	6 – 8							•						
Trees in Trouble	1 – 8			•	•									
Values on the Line	6 – 8						*							

Project Learning Tree Activities

Power of Print

Soil Stories

Sounds Around – Part B

Trees in Trouble

Values on the Line

Environmental Education

D. Decision and Action Skills

Content Standard

Students in Wisconsin will use findings from environmental issue investigations to develop decision-making skills, and to gain experience in citizen action skills.

- * Activity directly addresses the achievement of the standard.
- Activity reinforces or supports the achievement of the standard.

Performance Standards

		Grade 4								Grade 8							
		D.4.1	D.4.2	D.4.3	D.4.4	D.4.5	D.4.6	D.8.1	D.8.2	D.8.3	D.8.4	D.8.5	D.8.6	D.8.7	D.8.8		
		Demonstrate knowledge of a decision-making process	Identify and give examples of short- & long-term solutions	Identify ways to take positive environmental action	Communicate with local, state, or national officials	Explain how they can influence an environmental issue	Develop a plan to preserve the local environment	Identify options for addressing an environmental issue	List the advantages and disadvantages of solutions	List reasons why people participate in activities	Explain the political, legal, and budgetary options	Explain how personal actions can impact an issue	Develop a plan for improving the local environment	Identify how personal beliefs influence decisions	Give examples of influences on an environmental issue		
Air We Breathe	6 – 8											*	*				
Democracy in Action	5 – 8														*		
Earth Manners	PreK – 4			*													
Energy Sleuths	6 – 8										•						
Every Drop Counts	4 – 8	*	*	*	•		*					*	*				
Forest Consequences	6 – 8							*	*					•			
400-Acre Wood	7 – 8							*	•		•			*			
I'd Like to Visit a Place Where . . .	4 – 8						*					*	*				
Improve Your Place	5 – 8							•		•		*	*		*		
A Look at Aluminum – Part B	5 – 8											*	*				
A Look at Lifestyles	5 – 8													*			

Project Learning Tree Activities

Project Learning Tree Activities	Grade
Air We Breathe	6 – 8
Democracy in Action	5 – 8
Earth Manners	PreK – 4
Energy Sleuths	6 – 8
Every Drop Counts	4 – 8
Forest Consequences	6 – 8
400-Acre Wood	7 – 8
I'd Like to Visit a Place Where . . .	4 – 8
Improve Your Place	5 – 8
A Look at Aluminum – Part B	5 – 8
A Look at Lifestyles	5 – 8

Environmental Education

D. Decision and Action Skills

Content Standard

Students in Wisconsin will use findings from environmental issue investigations to develop decision-making skills, and to gain experience in citizen action skills.

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Performance Standards

		Grade 4								Grade 8							
		D.4.1	D.4.2	D.4.3	D.4.4	D.4.5	D.4.6	D.8.1	D.8.2	D.8.3	D.8.4	D.8.5	D.8.6	D.8.7	D.8.8		
		Demonstrate knowledge of a decision-making process	Identify and give examples of short- & long- term solutions	Identify ways to take positive environmental action	Communicate with local, state, or national officials	Explain how they can influence an environmental issue	Develop a plan to preserve the local environment	Identify options for addressing an environmental issue	List the advantages and disadvantages of solutions	List reasons why people participate in activities	Explain the political, legal, and budgetary options	Explain how personal actions can impact an issue	Develop a plan for improving the local environment	Identify how personal beliefs influence decisions	Give examples of influences on an environmental issue		
Loving It Too Much	6 – 8							*	*								
On the Move	4 – 8		•					•	•								
Our Changing World	5 – 8											*					
A Peek at Packaging	5 – 8										*						
Plant a Tree	1 – 8			*	*	*						*					
Publicize It!	5 – 8								•		•	•					
Reduce, Reuse, Recycle	4 – 8			*		*					*	*					
Sounds Around – Part B	6 – 8												•				
Talking Trash, Not!	1 – 6					*	•				*	*					
There Ought to Be a Law – Part B	6 – 8									*					*		
Trees for Many Reasons	2 – 8										*		*				

Project Learning Tree Activities	Grade
Loving It Too Much	6 – 8
On the Move	4 – 8
Our Changing World	5 – 8
A Peek at Packaging	5 – 8
Plant a Tree	1 – 8
Publicize It!	5 – 8
Reduce, Reuse, Recycle	4 – 8
Sounds Around – Part B	6 – 8
Talking Trash, Not!	1 – 6
There Ought to Be a Law – Part B	6 – 8
Trees for Many Reasons	2 – 8

Air Plants

Students will ① demonstrate and describe the general process of photosynthesis and ② explore the relationship between the amount of oxygen produced by plants and the amount of oxygen used by humans; Grades 3 - 6; Science, Math.

EE: B.4.1, B.8.7

M: B.4.5, B.8.7, D.4.5, D.8.4

S: F.4.4.

Air to Drive

Students will ① gain knowledge about possible global changes resulting from the emission of greenhouse gases and other pollutants and ② explain strategies for removing carbon dioxide from the air; Grades 5 - 8; Science, Math, Social Studies.

EE: B.8.10

M: B.8.7

SS: A.8.11, D.8.11

Air We Breathe

Students will ① identify various types of indoor air pollutants and their sources, ② understand how various pollutants can be harmful to people's health, ③ trace how radon can get into buildings and eventually into our bodies, and ④ take action to improve indoor air quality; Grades 6 - 8; Science, Language Arts.

ELA: A.8.4

EE: A.8.2, A.8.5, B.8.18, B.8.21, D.8.5, D.8.6

S: H.8.3

Are Vacant Lots Vacant?

Students will ① describe plants and animals that live at and around the study site and ② give examples of and describe ecological relationships between biotic and abiotic elements at the study site; Grades 4 - 8; Science, Math, Visual Arts.

EE: A.4.1, A.4.2, A.4.3, A.4.4, B.4.4, B.8.5, B.8.8, B.8.10

S: C.4.2, C.4.5, C.4.6, C.8.2, C.8.4, F.4.4

Birds and Worms

Students will ① simulate how predators use their vision to find prey, ② describe some different ways animals use camouflage for survival, and ③ invent a fictional animal that is camouflaged for its particular environment; Grades K - 6; Science, Math, Physical Education.

EE: B.4.6, B.8.8

M: A.4.2, E.4.3

S: F.4.1, F.4.4, F.8.2

Can It Be Real?

Students will ① study the characteristics of unusual plants and animals and ② describe how plant and animal species are adapted to a particular set of environmental conditions; Grades 4 - 8; Science, Language Arts.

ELA: C.4.2, F.4.1, F.8.1

EE: B.4.6

S: F.8.2, F.8.7

Charting Diversity

Students will ① organize different species of plants and animals according to various characteristics and ② determine how certain characteristics help species adapt to environmental conditions; Grades 4 - 8; Science.

EE: B.4.6

S: F.8.2, F.8.7

Democracy in Action

Students will ① compare two citizen groups, special-interest groups, or government agencies involved in the same issues, ② create visual representations of the two groups, and ③ explain ways students can become involved in the civic action process through participation in such groups; Grades 5 - 8; Social Studies, Visual Arts.

ELA: F.8.1

EE: D.8.8

SS: C.8.6, C.8.8

Did You Notice?

Students will ① identify changes in their local environment over the course of time and ② create a timeline to illustrate patterns of change over time; Part A: Grades K – 4, Part B: Grades 3 – 8; Social Studies, Language Arts, Visual Arts.

ELA: F.4.1, F.8.1

EE: B.8.24

SS: A.4.8, A.8.4, B.4.1, B.4.2, B.4.8

Dynamic Duos

Students will ① examine close relationships that exist between different organisms and ② explain how partners in these relationships help each other to survive; Grades 5 – 8; Science, Language Arts.

EE: B.8.8

S: F.8.2, F.8.7

Earth Manners

Students will express appropriate ways to treat living things and to act in forests, parks, and other natural areas; Grades PreK – 4; Science, Social Studies, Language Arts, Visual Arts.

ELA: C.4.2

EE: D.4.3

SS: C.4.1

Energy Sleuths

Students will ① identify different energy sources, ② discuss the pros and cons of various energy sources from economic, social, and environmental perspectives, and ③ describe some of the ways people use energy in their daily lives; Grades 6 – 8; Science, Social Studies.

ELA: A.8.4, C.8.2, F.8.1

EE: B.8.15, B.8.16, B.8.17, D.8.4

S: E.8.6, F.8.9, F.8.10

SS: A.8.10, B.8.8, C.8.7, D.8.7

Environmental Exchange Box

Students will ① discover some of the resources, products, and other characteristics of their region and ways that people in their region are trying to improve the environment and ② describe similarities and differences between their region and another region with respect to these characteristics; Grades K – 8; Science, Social Studies.

EE: B.8.6, B.8.14

S: E.4.5, F.4.4

SS: A.4.5, A.8.1, E.4.9

Every Drop Counts

Students will ① monitor their daily actions and estimate the amount of water they use in a day, ② describe how water is wasted and why it is important to conserve it, ③ design and implement a water conservation plan, and ④ determine the amount of water and money saved through their plan; Grades 4 – 8; Science, Social Studies, Math.

EE: A.4.2, A.4.3, A.4.4, B.4.10, D.4.1, D.4.2, D.4.3, D.4.4, D.4.6, D.8.5, D.8.6, E.4.1

M: A.4.3, A.8.3, B.4.5, B.8.5, B.8.7, D.4.4, D.8.3, E.4.5, E.8.4

S: C.4.2, C.4.4, C.4.6, C.8.3, C.8.7, E.4.7, E.8.6, F.8.9, F.8.10, G.8.3, H.4.2

SS: D.4.7, D.8.7, D.8.11

Every Tree for Itself

Students will ① simulate how trees compete for their essential needs and ② describe how varying amounts of light, water, and nutrients affect a tree's growth; Grades K – 8; Science, Math.

EE: B.8.8

M: A.4.2

S: F.4.1, F.4.2, F.4.4, F.8.9, F.8.10

The Fallen Log

Students will ① identify some of the organisms that live in, on, and under fallen logs and explain how those organisms depend on the dead wood for survival and ② describe the process of decomposition; Grades 4 – 8; Science, Visual Arts.

EE: A.4.1, A.4.2, A.4.3, B.4.1, B.4.6, B.8.2, B.8.8

S: C.4.2, C.4.5, C.8.2, C.8.3, F.4.1, F.4.4, F.8.8, E.4.6, E.8.4

A Few of My Favorite Things

Students will ① explain how the different materials that go into making a product all come from natural resources, ② identify natural resources as being renewable or nonrenewable, ③ identify the steps that go into making a product, and ④ describe some of the impacts from obtaining and processing natural resources for making products; Grades 4 – 8; Science, Social Studies, Visual Arts.

EE: B.4.2, B.4.3, B.4.8, B.4.9, B.4.10, B.8.17

S: E.4.7, E.4.8, E.8.6, F.8.10

SS: D.4.7, D.8.11

Field, Forest, and Stream

Students will ① investigate and measure components in three different ecosystems, ② describe similarities and differences they observe among three ecosystems, and ③ identify ways that the abiotic components of an ecosystem affect the biotic components; Grades 4 – 8; Science, Math.

EE: A.4.1, A.4.2, A.4.3, A.4.4, B.4.4, B.8.8

M: D.4.3, D.4.4, D.8.3, D.8.4

S: C.4.2, C.4.4, C.4.5, C.8.2, E.8.4, F.4.1, F.4.2, F.4.4, F.8.8

Forest Consequences

Students will ① evaluate the options for managing or using a piece of forested land and ② make a land-use decision and explore the consequences of that decision; Grades 6 – 8; Science, Social Studies, Language Arts.

ELA: A.8.4, C.8.1, C.8.3

EE: D.8.1, D.8.2, D.8.7

S: B.8.6, F.8.10

SS: C.8.7

Forest for the Trees

Students will ① participate in a simulation designed to teach how forest resources are managed and ② simulate managing a piece of land for various products; Grades 4 – 8; Science, Math, Social Studies.

EE: B.4.9, B.4.10, B.8.2, B.8.5, B.8.8, B.8.10

S: F.4.1, F.4.2, F.4.4, F.8.9, F.8.10

SS: A.4.4, A.4.6

A Forest of Many Uses

Students will ① identify ways that people use forest resources, ② explain that forests are managed to satisfy a variety of human needs, and ③ explore how different forest uses can be balanced with each other; Grades 5 – 8; Science, Social Studies.

EE: B.8.10, B.8.15

S: F.8.9

SS: D.8.11

The Forest of S. T. Shrew

Students will ① identify microhabitats in the forest by drawing pictures or writing a story describing a microhabitat and ② describe some of the plants and animals that characterize several microhabitats within the forest; Grades 1 – 6; Science, Language Arts, Visual Arts.

ELA: C.4.2

EE: B.4.6, B.8.8

S: F.4.1, F.4.4, F.8.2

400-Acre Wood

Students will ① create a management plan for a hypothetical piece of public forest land, taking into account factors such as ecosystem stability, monetary income or costs, wildlife, water, and visitors and ② experience the analysis and decision making that goes into managing forest land; Grades 7 – 8; Science, Math, Social Studies.

EE: B.8.5, B.8.8, B.8.10, B.8.15, D.8.1, D.8.2, D.8.4, D.8.7

M: A.8.1, B.8.2, E.8.4

SS: C.8.7, E.8.5

Germinating Giants

Students will ① measure certain physical characteristics of at least three different trees and ② compare various measurements from these trees and draw conclusions about the nature of each tree; Grades 4 – 6; Science, Math.

EE: B.4.6, B.8.8

M: B.4.5, B.8.7, D.4.4, D.8.3, D.8.4

S: F.4.3, F.8.2

Habitat Pen Pals

Students will ① explain the relationship between climate conditions and habitat, ② identify relationships between organisms within habitats, and ③ distinguish between kinds of animals that can and can't live in a particular habitat; Grades 3 – 6; Science, Language Arts.

ELA: B.4.1, B.8.1

EE: B.4.6, B.8.8

S: E.8.3, F.4.1, F.4.4

I'd Like to Visit a Place Where . . .

Students will ① describe the characteristics of their favorite recreational area, ② explain the importance of recreational areas to people and other living things, and ③ conduct a project at a local park to improve a habitat or enhance its suitability to people; Grades 4 – 8; Science, Social Studies, Language Arts, Physical Education, Visual Arts.

ELA: B.4.1

EE: B.4.5, B.4.10, D.4.6, D.8.5, D.8.6

SS: A.4.4, A.8.8, E.4.5, E.8.4

Improve Your Place

Students will ① identify ways they can improve their local area and ② carry out plans to improve the area; Grades 5 – 8; Science, Social Studies, Visual Arts.

EE: D.8.1, D.8.4, D.8.6, D.8.8

SS: C.8.7, E.8.4

Life on the Edge

Students will ① identify environmental factors that can cause species to become endangered, ② research the current status of several endangered plants or animals, and ③ present persuasive arguments for the protection of a particular plant or animal species; Grades 4 – 8; Science, Social Studies.

ELA: E.4.3, E.8.3, E.8.4, F.4.1

EE: B.4.6, B.8.2, B.8.5, B.8.8

S: B.4.1, F.4.1, F.4.4, F.8.2, F.8.9

SS: A.4.8, A.8.11, E.4.10, E.8.8

Living with Fire

Students will ① describe a forest fire: how it starts, spreads, and burns out and ② explain several approaches to forest fire management; Grades 4 – 8; Science, Social Studies.

EE: B.8.5, B.8.23

M: E.4.1, E.4.3, E.8.2, E.8.4

S: F.4.4

SS: A.4.8

A Look at Aluminum

Students will ① understand how the unique properties of aluminum make it invaluable for many products and technologies on which we depend, ② describe the steps involved in extracting bauxite and processing aluminum from bauxite, and ③ explain the environmental impacts of producing new aluminum and recycling aluminum products; Grades 5 – 8; Science, Social Studies.

ELA: E.8.4

EE: B.8.17, B.8.20, D.8.5, D.8.6

SS: D.8.2, D.8.11, E.8.8

A Look at Lifestyles

Students will ① analyze a Native American legend and traditional Native American attitudes toward using the land, ② identify some of the values of the early American pioneers, and ③ create a chart comparing our own environmental beliefs and behaviors with those of traditional Native Americans and early pioneers; Grades 5 – 8; Science, Social Studies, Language Arts, Performing Arts.

ELA: C.8.2, F.8.1

EE: B.8.12, B.8.15, B.8.17, D.8.7

SS: B.8.4, E.8.3

Loving It Too Much

Students will ① explain how increased numbers of park visitors and activities outside park boundaries affect ecosystems within national and local parks and ② offer possible solutions to problems facing national and local parks; Grades 6 – 8; Science, Language Arts, Social Studies.

ELA: A.8.4

EE: B.8.5, B.8.10, D.8.1, D.8.2

M: E.8.4

S: F.8.9, F.8.10

SS: D.8.5, D.8.11

Make Your Own Paper

Students will ① make recycled paper from scrap paper, ② describe the steps of the papermaking process and identify the elements and outputs of the process, and ③ compare making paper by hand to the process used in factories; Grades 1 – 8; Science, Social Studies, Language Arts, Visual Arts.

EE: B.4.2, B.4.10, B.8.17, B.8.20

The Native Way

Students will describe traditional Native American lifestyles and Native Americans' use of natural resources and the land; Grades 4 – 8; Science, Social Studies, Language Arts.

ELA: A.4.3, A.8.3, C.4.3, C.8.3

EE: B.8.9, B.8.12

S: E.8.6

SS: B.4.1, B.4.7, B.8.1, B.8.4, E.4.8, E.4.11, E.8.9, E.8.10

Nature's Recyclers

Students will ① understand and describe the process of decomposition, ② explain the function of scavengers and decomposers, and ③ experiment with sowbugs to determine what they eat and what their role is in the ecosystem; Grades 1 – 6; Science, Language Arts.

EE: A.4.1, A.4.2, A.4.3, A.4.4, B.4.1, B.8.2

S: C.4.2, C.4.5, C.4.6, C.4.8, C.8.2, C.8.3, C.8.4, C.8.7, F.4.1, F.4.4, F.8.8

Nothing Succeeds Like Succession

Students will ① explore basic relationships between species diversity and ecosystem stability, ② identify successional stages in ecosystems based on plant and animal species, and ③ draw conclusions about the process of succession based on study test plots in different stages of succession; Part A: Grades 3 – 6, Parts B and C: Grades 4 – 8; Science, Math, Language Arts, Visual Arts.

ELA: A.4.2

EE: B.4.4, B.4.6, B.8.2, B.8.5, B.8.8, B.8.10

S: A.4.5, C.4.2, C.4.5, E.4.6, F.4.2, F.4.4, F.8.8, F.8.9

On the Move

Students will ① compare various transportation methods for getting to and from school, ② describe the transportation systems their community uses, and ③ design or propose a practical and efficient transportation system for the future; Grades 4 – 8; Science, Math, Social Studies, Visual Arts.

EE: B.4.2, D.4.2, D.8.1, D.8.2

S: G.8.3, G.8.4, H.4.1, H.4.2

Our Changing World

Students will ① identify some global environmental patterns, ② discuss issues related to global change, and ③ describe actions that people can take to improve the environment and quality of life; Grades 5 – 8; Science, Social Studies, Language Arts.

ELA: C.8.1

EE: B.8.10, B.8.17, D.8.5

S: E.4.6, F.8.9, F.8.10

A Peek at Packaging

Students will ① describe the different purposes for packaging, ② identify the pros and cons of different types of packaging, and ③ explore how packaging affects our decisions as consumers; Grades 5 – 8; Science, Social Studies, Visual Arts.

EE: B.8.15, D.8.5

S: E.4.7, E.4.8, G.8.3, H.8.3

People of the Forest

Students will ① describe the lifestyles of several forest-dwelling peoples of the present or past and ways that they depend upon the forest, ② describe some of the effects forest people have on their environment, and ③ write a story focusing on a day in the life of a member of one group of forest people; Grades 5 – 8; Social Studies, Language Arts.

ELA: A.8.4, B.8.1, C.8.2, F.8.1

EE: B.8.5, B.8.9, B.8.12

SS: A.8.8, B.8.10, E.8.3

People, Places, Things

Students will ① explain how human communities are made up of different types of people, places, and things and how they all fit together and ② investigate some of the people, places, and things that make up their own community; Grades K – 3; Social Studies.

EE: B.4.5

SS: E.4.5

Picture This!

Students will ① identify similarities and differences between organisms by collecting pictures and categorizing them and ② comprehend the connection between diverse organisms and the diverse environments in which they live; Grades PreK – 3; Science, Visual Arts, Math.

EE: B.4.6

Planet of Plenty

Students will ① investigate the diversity of plants and animals on a small plot of land and ② explain the value of a diversity of life forms in a particular ecosystem; Grades 4 – 6; Science, Language Arts, Visual Arts.

ELA: C.4.1, C.4.2, C.8.1, C.8.2

EE: A.4.2, A.4.3, A.4.4, B.8.3, B.8.5

S: C.4.2, C.4.4, C.4.5, C.4.6, C.4.7, C.4.8, C.8.2, C.8.3, C.8.4, C.8.5, C.8.6, C.8.7, C.8.11, F.4.4, F.8.8

Planning the Ideal Community

Students will ① map the locations of services and resources in their community and ② create a map of an “ideal” community that includes all the services and resources people need to live there; Grades 6 – 8; Math, Social Studies, Language Arts, Visual Arts.

EE: B.8.10, B.8.11

Plant a Tree

Students will ① identify ways that urban trees enrich our lives, ② determine how people care for urban trees, ③ identify areas in the community that would benefit from having more trees, and ④ organize and execute a class tree-planting project in a local area; Grades 1 – 8; Science, Social Studies.

EE: B.8.10, D.4.3, D.4.4, D.4.6, D.8.6, E.4.2

S: F.4.1, F.4.2, F.4.4, F.8.2, F.8.9, F.8.10

SS: C.4.5, D.4.7, D.8.11, E.4.5

Pollution Search

Students will ① identify forms of pollution and describe the effects that various pollutants can have on people, wildlife, and plants and ② describe relationships between various forms of pollution and human actions; Grades 2 – 6; Science, Social Studies, Math.

ELA: C.4.1, C.4.3, C.8.2, C.8.3

EE: B.4.12, B.8.18, B.8.21, E.4.1

S: F.4.4, F.8.9

SS: D.4.7, D.8.11

Power of Print

Students will ① compare different sections of a daily newspaper, ② analyze some of the ways that ideas and opinions are expressed through word choice, ③ research opposing sides of a local environmental issue, and ④ write articles on environmental issues using both objective and subjective points of view; Grades 6 – 8; Social Studies, Language Arts, Visual Arts, Performing Arts.

ELA: A.8.4, B.8.1, C.8.2, D.8.1, F.8.1

EE: A.8.1, A.8.2, C.8.1, C.8.3, C.8.4

SS: C.8.7, E.8.8

Publicize It!

Students will ① plan and carry out a community action project and ② use the media to create public awareness about the event; Grades 5 – 8; Science, Social Studies; Language Arts, Visual Arts, Performing Arts.

ELA: B.8.1, B.8.2, E.8.3, E.8.4

EE: D.8.3, D.8.5, D.8.6

SS: E.8.4, E.8.8

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Students will ① learn about ways to reduce solid waste in their community by reducing consumption, reusing products, recycling materials, and composting and ② communicate to others the importance of recycling in their community; Projects 1 and 2; Grades 4 – 8; Project 3; Grades 6 – 8; Science, Math, Social Studies, Language Arts.

ELA: B.4.1, B.4.2, E.8.3

EE: B.4.11, B.8.20, D.4.3, D.4.6, D.8.5, D.8.6

M: A. 8.3, B.8.7

S: E.4.7

SS: D.4.7, D.8.11, E.8.4

Renewable or Not

Students will ① identify renewable, nonrenewable, perpetual, reusable, and recyclable resources and explain the differences among them and ② play a game that simulates society's use of renewable and nonrenewable resources; Grades 4 – 8; Science, Social Studies.

EE: B.4.8, B.4.9, B.8.13, B.8.16

S: E.4.7, E.4.8, E.8.6

SS: D.4.2, D.4.7, D.8.2, D.8.11

Resource-Go-Round

Students will ① identify the natural resources from which products are derived, ② trace the lifecycle of a product from natural resources, to the raw materials, to the finished product, and ③ describe how energy is consumed in the manufacturing and transportation of products and how it might be conserved; Grades 4 – 8; Science, Social Studies.

EE: B.4.2, B.4.8, B.4.10, B.8.13, B.8.15, B.8.16, B.8.17, B.8.18

S: E.4.7, E.4.8

SS: A.8.7, D.8.7

School Yard Safari

Students will ① find signs of animals living in the school yard and ② describe ways the school environment provides those animals with what they need to live; Grades PreK – 5; Science, Language Arts.

EE: B.4.4, B.8.8

S: C.4.2, C.4.4, C.4.5, C.4.6, C.8.2, F.4.1, F.4.4

Soil Stories

Students will ① identify components of soil and how these components determine its function, ② explain how different soil types determine the characteristics of ecosystems, and ③ predict the influence of soils on water filtration and on human use of an area; Grades 5 – 8; Science, Math, Social Studies.

EE: B.8.17, C.8.2

M: D.8.3, D.8.4, E.8.4

S: C.8.3, C.8.4, C.8.6, E.8.4

Sounds Around

Students will ① identify sounds and map their location in the environment, ② explain how noise can be a problem in the community, ③ create and carry out a plan to lessen a local noise problem, and ④ study a Greek myth about sounds in nature; Part A: Grades 1 – 6, Part B: Grades 6 – 8, Part C: Grades PreK – K; Science, Language Arts, Social Studies, Math.

ELA: C.4.2

EE: A.8.1, A.8.2, A.8.4, A.8.5, B.8.18, B.8.21, B.8.23, C.8.2, D.8.6

M: D.8.3, E.8.1, E.8.2, E.8.4

S: C.8.4, C.8.6, D.8.8, F.8.2

SS: C.8.7, C.8.8, E.4.11, E.8.4

Tale of the Sun

Students will ① describe how stories reveal the beliefs of the people who tell them and ② read or listen to an American Indian story to gain insight on the vital importance of the sun; Grades K – 6; Language Arts, Science, Social Studies.

ELA: A.4.3, A.8.3, C.4.2, C.8.2

EE: B.8.9, B.8.12

SS: E.4.11, E.8.10

Talking Trash, Not!

Students will ① analyze the solid waste that they generate over a period of time, ② describe what happens to various types of waste when it's discarded, and ③ develop and implement a plan for reducing the amount of waste they generate; Grades 1 – 6; Science, Social Studies, Math.

EE: B.4.10, B.8.20, D.4.6, D.8.1, D.8.5, D.8.6, E.4.1

S: E.4.7, E.8.6

SS: D.4.7, D.8.11, E.8.4

Tepee Talk

Students will describe several different types of Native American shelters and the materials that were used to make them; Grades 4 – 8; Science, Social Studies, Visual Arts.

EE: B.8.12, B.8.15

SS: A.8.9, B.4.1, E.4.9

Then and Now

Students will ① describe the environmental changes that have occurred in their community over the course of time, ② discuss whether those changes have been positive or negative for the community, and ③ discuss ways to remedy negative changes; Grades 5 – 8; Social Studies, Science, Language Arts.

EE: B.8.5, B.8.10, B.8.15, B.8.24

SS: A.8.4, B.8.1

There Ought to Be a Law

Students will ① describe how a group of students can make and change rules, ② compare rulemaking in a group to the lawmaking process in local government, ③ research the steps necessary to make a proposed change in their community, and ④ create a poster that shows the effects of their proposed change and that depicts the lawmaking process; Part A: Grades 3 – 8; Part B: Grades 6 – 8; Math, Social Studies, Language Arts, Visual Arts.

ELA: F.8.1

EE: D.8.4, D.8.8

SS: C.4.3, C.8.3, C.8.7, C.8.8

Three Cheers for Trees!

Students will ① describe the ways in which trees benefit people and ② make pictures or models depicting how trees may be used to improve the human-made environment; Grades 1 – 6; Science, Social Studies, Visual Arts.

EE: B.4.5, B.8.10

Tree Treasures

Students will ① identify and categorize products derived from trees, ② find out which forest products are recyclable or reusable, and ③ recommend actions for conserving forest resources; Grades 2 – 6; Science, Social Studies; Visual Arts.

EE: B.4.10, E.4.1

S: E.4.7

Trees as Habitats

Students will ① take inventory of the plants and animals that live on, in, and around trees and ② identify ways those animals and plants depend on trees for survival and, in turn, influence the trees; Grades 3 - 8; Science, Math, Social Studies, Visual Arts.

EE: A.4.1, A.4.2, A.4.3, A.4.4, B.4.6, B.8.8

M: A.4.2

S: C.4.2, C.4.4, C.4.5, C.4.6, C.8.2, C.8.4, F.4.4, F.8.8

Trees for Many Reasons

Students will discuss and analyze a fictional story relating to the proper and improper use of natural resources; Part A: Grades 2 – 8, Part B: Grades 6 – 8; Science, Social Studies, Language Arts.

ELA: A.8.3, C.4.2, C.8.2, C.8.3

EE: B.8.5, B.8.8, B.8.10, D.8.5, D.8.7, E.8.2

S: F.4.4, F.8.9, F.8.10

SS: A.4.4, D.4.7, D.8.11

Trees in Trouble

Students will ① cite factors that can cause trees to become unhealthy, ② describe symptoms of unhealthy trees, ③ compare environmental conditions that affect both human health and plant health, and ④ identify people or agencies that care for trees and forests; Part A: Grades 1 – 8, Part B: Grades 4 – 8; Science, Math, Social Studies, Language Arts, Performing Arts.

ELA: A.4.4, A.8.4

EE: A.4.2, B.4.4, B.8.5, B.8.21, B.8.23, C.4.3, C.4.4

S: C.4.2, C.4.4, C.4.5, C.8.2, C.8.3, C.8.4, F.4.1, F.4.2, F.8.2

Tropical Treehouse

Students will ① describe the plants and animals that live in different levels of the tropical rainforest, ② examine and discuss a case study that involves the rights of native inhabitants of a tropical rainforest in a national park, and ③ describe the sounds they might encounter when visiting a rainforest; Part A: Grades 3 – 6, Part B: Grades 6 – 8; Science, Social Studies, Language Arts, Performing Arts, Visual Arts.
ELA: A.8.4, C.8.3, F.4.1, F.8.1
EE: B.4.4, B.4.6, B.8.5, B.8.8, B.8.9, B.8.10, B.8.12, B.8.15, B.8.17
S: F.4.1, F.4.4, F.8.9, F.8.10
SS: A.8.8, B.8.10, C.8.3, E.8.3, E.8.10

Values on the Line

Students will ① examine statements regarding environmental issues and determine the degree to which they agree with them, ② share their views and opinions with others and gain awareness on the range of values related to environmental issues, and ③ identify the need for balanced information when forming opinions; Grades 6 – 8; Social Studies, Science.
ELA: C.8.1, C.8.2, C.8.3
EE: C.8.1, D.8.7
SS: E.4.7, E.8.2, E.8.6, E.8.7

Waste Watchers

Students will ① identify ways to save energy in their daily lives and ② explain how saving energy can reduce air pollution; Grades 5 – 8; Science, Math, Social Studies.
EE: B.8.17, B.8.18, B.8.21, D.8.5, D.8.6
M: A.8.1, B.8.7, D.8.3
S: E.8.4, E.8.6
SS: A.8.10, A.8.10, D.8.11

Watch on Wetlands

Students will ① study a wetland ecosystem and ② analyze the issues and opinions relating to the management and protection of wetlands; Grades 7 – 8; Science, Social Studies, Language Arts, Performing Arts.
ELA: A.8.4, C.8.1, C.8.3, F.8.1
EE: A.8.1, A.8.2, A.8.4, B.8.5, B.8.6, B.8.23
S: C.8.1, C.8.2, C.8.3, C.8.4, C.8.5, C.8.6, C.8.7, F.8.8
SS: C.8.7, E.8.4

Water Wonders

Students will ① simulate the paths that water takes in the water cycle, ② describe the importance of the water cycle to living things, ③ conduct an experiment to discover how plants affect the movement of water in a watershed, and ④ describe how plants are important in maintaining water quality; Grades 4 – 8; Science, Language Arts, Physical Education.
ELA: B.4.1
EE: B.4.7, B.8.17
S: E.4.6, E.8.1, E.8.4, F.4.4, F.8.8

We All Need Trees

Students will ① examine various products and determine which ones are made from trees, ② describe ways that trees are used to make products and ways that these products can be conserved, and ③ explore methods for recycling and reusing products; Grades 4 – 6; Social Studies, Science, Language Arts.
ELA: A.4.4, A.8.4
EE: B.4.10, E.4.1
S: E.4.8

We Can Work It Out

Students will ① develop solutions to a land-use problem involving urban open space and ② simulate a city council meeting to discuss and decide on a land-use issue; Grades 5 – 8; Social Studies, Language Arts, Visual Arts.

ELA: C.8.1

EE: D.8.1, D.8.2, D.8.7, D.8.8

SS: C.8.3, C.8.7

Web of Life

Students will ① collect information about various organisms in an ecosystem, ② create a mural that depicts the interdependence of various organisms with other components in an ecosystem, and ③ create a simulated web of life using a ball of string; Grades 4 – 8; Science, Language Arts, Visual Arts.

ELA: F.4.1, F.8.1

EE: B.4.4, B.8.8

S: F.4.1, F.4.2, F.4.4, F.8.9

Where Are the Cedars of Lebanon?

Students will ① investigate how ancient civilizations used natural resources and affected the environment and ② apply environmental lessons learned in the past toward solving current environmental problems; Grades 6 – 8; Social Studies, Science.

EE: B.8.9, B.8.10, B.8.12, B.8.17

S: E.8.6, F.8.8

SS: A.8.8, B.8.2, B.8.4

Who Works in this Forest?

Students will ① explore a variety of jobs that are directly related to forest resources and ② describe how various professionals work together to care for forests; Grades 3 – 6; Science, Social Studies.

EE: B.4.11, B.8.22

SS: A.4.4, D.4.4